

I. AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

20. (Currently Amended) A recombinant *Corynebacterium glutamicum* ~~bacterium~~ comprising at least one isolated *Corynebacterium glutamicum* polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

a) an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, wherein said polypeptide enhances amylase secretion; and

b) an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, wherein said polypeptide enhances amylase secretion.

21-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A recombinant *Corynebacterium glutamicum* bacterium comprising at least one isolated *Corynebacterium glutamicum* polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

a) an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; and

b) an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

25. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claim 24, wherein said polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 enhances excretion of an amylase from the cytoplasm of said bacterium to a broth.

26. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claim 24, wherein said polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 enhances excretion of an amylase from the cytoplasm of said bacterium to a broth.

27. (Currently Amended) A recombinant *Corynebacterium glutamicum* bacterium comprising at least one *Corynebacterium glutamicum* polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

a) an isolated polynucleotide comprising nucleotides 34 to 1944 of SEQ ID NO:1 ~~nucleotides 34 to 1944~~; and

b) an isolated polynucleotide comprising nucleotides 22 to 1230 of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~nucleotides 22 to 1230~~.

28. (Currently Amended) The bacterium of claim 27, wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprising ~~SEQ ID NO:1~~ nucleotides 34 to 1944 of SEQ ID NO: 1 encodes a polypeptide that enhances excretion of an amylase from the cytoplasm of said bacterium to a broth.

29. (Currently Amended) The bacterium of claim 27, wherein said isolated polynucleotide comprising ~~SEQ ID NO:2~~ nucleotides 22 to 1230 of SEQ ID NO: 2 encodes a polypeptide that enhances excretion of an amylase from the cytoplasm of said bacterium to a broth.

30. (Currently Amended) The bacterium of ~~any of the claims 20, 21, 22, 23 and~~ or 24 comprising an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide is overexpressed.

31. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claims 28 or 29 comprising an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide, wherein said polypeptide is overexpressed.

32. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising an isolated polynucleotide as set forth in any of claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27.

33. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of any of the claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27, whereby in said bacterium at least one polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the secretory polypeptide *SecE* encoded by the *secE* gene native to *Corynebacterium glutamicum*, the secretory polypeptide *SecY* encoded by the *secY* gene native to *Corynebacterium glutamicum* and the secretory polypeptide *SecA* encoded by the *secA* gene native to *Corynebacterium glutamicum* is overexpressed.

34. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of any of the claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 27, wherein said bacterium further comprises a nucleic acid encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

35. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claim 34, wherein said nucleic acid encoding a heterologous polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a nucleic acid encoding a cellulase, a nucleic acid encoding an interferon, a nucleic acid encoding a lipase, and a nucleic acid encoding a nuclease.

36. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claim 34, wherein said nucleic acid encoding a heterologous polypeptide is a nucleic acid encoding a cellulase.

37. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claim 34, wherein said nucleic acid encoding a heterologous polypeptide is a nucleic acid encoding an amylase.

38. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claim 37, wherein said nucleic acid encoding an amylase is a nucleic acid to the genus *Streptomyces*.

39. (Previously Presented) The bacterium of claim 38, wherein said nucleic acid of the genus *Streptomyces* is native to the species *Streptomyces griseus*.

40. (New) A recombinant *Corynebacterium glutamicum* comprising a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a fragment thereof, and encoding a polypeptide that enhances amylase secretion.

41. (New) A recombinant *Corynebacterium glutamicum* comprising a *Corynebacterium glutamicum* nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a fragment thereof, and encoding a polypeptide that enhances amylase secretion.

42. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claims 40 or 41.

43. (New) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 42.